IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-33 (Cancelled).

Claim 34 (Original). A method of producing a microparticle composition, said method comprising:

(a) forming an emulsion comprising (i) a polymer selected from the group consisting of a poly(α-hydroxy acid), a polyhydroxy butyric acid, a polycaprolactone, a polyorthoester, a polyanhydride, and a polycyanoacrylate, (ii) an organic solvent, (iii) a detergent and (iv) water; and

(b) removing the organic solvent from the emulsion to form microparticles;

wherein about 10-90% of the total detergent in the microparticle composition is bound to the microparticles and the remainder is unbound, and wherein said microparticles are not subjected to a washing step.

Claim 35 (Original). The method of claim 34, wherein the emulsion is a water-in-oil-in-water emulsion that is formed by a process comprising:

(a) emulsifying an organic phase comprising the polymer and the organic solvent with a first aqueous phase comprising water to form a water-in-oil emulsion; and

(b) emulsifying a second aqueous phase comprising the cationic detergent and water with the emulsion formed in step (a) to form a water-in-oil-in-water emulsion.

Claim 36 (Original). The method of claim 34, wherein a cross-flow filtration step is performed after removing the organic solvent.

Claim 37 (Original). The method of claim 36, wherein the detergent is a cationic detergent that is provided in the emulsion at a weight to weight detergent to polymer ratio of from about 0. 05:1 to about 0.5:1.

Claim 38 (Original). The method of claim 37, wherein the cationic detergent is provided in the emulsion at a weight to weight detergent to polymer ratio of from about 0.1:1 to about 0.5:1, wherein the polymer is poly(D,L-lactide-co-glycolide), and wherein the cationic detergent is CTAB.

Claim 39 (Original). The method of claim 34, wherein the detergent is a cationic detergent that is provided in the emulsion at a weight to weight detergent to polymer ratio of from about 0.001:1 to about 0.05:1.

Claim 40 (Original). The method of claim 39, wherein the cationic detergent is provided in the emulsion at a weight to weight detergent to polymer ratio of from about 0.002:1 to about 0.04:1, wherein the cationic detergent is CTAB, wherein the polymer is poly(D,L-lactide-co-glycolide), and wherein the microparticles are not subjected to a step to remove excess CTAB from the composition.

Claim 41 (Original). The method of claim 34, wherein the polymer is a poly(D,L-lactide-co-glycolide) having a lactide/glycolide molar ratio ranging from 40:60 to 60:40 and a molecular weight ranging from 30,000 Daltons to 70,000 Daltons.

Claim 42 (Original). A microparticle composition formed by the process of claim 34.

Claim 43 (Original). A method of producing a biologically active microparticle composition, said method comprising:

(a) providing a microparticle composition by the method of claim 34; and

(b) incubating the microparticle composition with a biologically active macromolecule.

Claim 44 (Original). The method of claim 43, wherein the biologically active macromolecule is a polynucleotide.

Claims 45-57 (Cancelled).